

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 4**

WHEREAS, macular degeneration is an eye disease that occurs when there are changes to the macula, which is small portion of the retina that is located on the inside back layer of the eye, and results in a reduction of central vision and makes seeing details for close work, such as reading, difficult or impossible; and

WHEREAS, macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness among older Americans, affecting ten million people today. The National Eye Institute estimates that the number could rise to eighteen million people by 2030; and

WHEREAS, there are two types of age-related macular degeneration. The wet form of macular degeneration, which involves only about ten percent of cases, responds to laser treatments in its early stages. The more common dry form is considered untreatable, although some recent research indicates that certain antioxidant vitamins and minerals may help prevent or slow its progression; and

WHEREAS, the exact cause of macular degeneration is unknown, but it may be related to aging, high blood pressure, smoking, and exposure to high levels of ultraviolet radiation and blue light, both found in sunlight; and

WHEREAS, ongoing research and studies have resulted in some encouraging early findings, such as the possible reversal of macular degeneration in its early stages; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri, through research, programs and funding, could facilitate the discovery and implementation of promising new treatments, technologies and programs for assistance for the benefit of those persons in the state who are afflicted with this disease:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, that a Joint Interim Committee of the General Assembly be created to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, with no more than three such members from the same political party, and five members of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate, with no more than three such members from the same political party, and that said committee be authorized to function during the interim between the Ninetieth and Ninety-first General Assemblies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said committee make a comprehensive study on macular degeneration, including the solicitation of information from appropriate state agencies and the public on the social, economic, educational and health implications of macular degeneration;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be authorized to hold hearings as it deems advisable, and that the staffs of House Research, Senate Research and the Committee on Legislative Research provide such legal, research, clerical, technical and bill drafting services requested by the committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee, its members, and any staff personnel assigned to the committee shall receive reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the committee or any subcommittee thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee report its recommendations and findings to the Missouri General Assembly by January 1, 2001, and the authority of such committee shall terminate on December 31, 2000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem of the Senate.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10

WHEREAS, the legislature determines it is advisable to promote uniformity among the methods used by insurers of this state to value life insurance policies; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners have adopted model regulations for the valuation of life insurance policies which, if used by insurers in this state, would unify the valuation of life insurance policies in this state; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby direct the department of insurance to promulgate regulations governing the valuation of life insurance policies and hereby recommend that the department of insurance adopt the "Valuation of Life Insurance Policies Model Regulation" adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

WHEREAS, last session, in Senate Bill No. 386, the general assembly recognized changes made by the United States Congress to Section 451(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, which allow for favorable tax treatment for those pre-October 22, 1998, lottery winners currently receiving annual payments from annuities or securities who elect to receive a single cash payment of the remaining value of their prize within the eighteen-month period between July 1, 1999, and December 31, 2000; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the passage of Senate Bill No. 386 and the signature of such bill by the governor, section 313.351 became law effective August 28, 1999; and

WHEREAS, section 313.351 allows the state lottery commission to authorize pre-October 22, 1998, lottery winners currently receiving annual payments from annuities or securities to elect a single cash payment in lieu of remaining annual payments upon presentation of a plan to the general assembly and receipt of approval therefor from the general assembly by concurrent resolution; and

WHEREAS, the state lottery commission has submitted to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president pro tempore of the senate and the commissioner of the office of administration the details of its plan to allow state lottery prize winners who are currently receiving annual payments to receive the present value of the remaining payments at the date of execution a single cash payment in lieu of remaining annual payments pursuant to Section 451(h) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

WHEREAS, the plan specifies all details required by section 313.351, including details on obtaining the funds necessary to present the option of single cash payments to pre-October 22, 1998, lottery winners, data indicating fifty percent of such winners will choose a lump-sum option, data indicating that a one-time increase of total state revenues would occur in an approximate amount of four million six hundred thousand dollars and the lottery's belief that offering the single cash payments will provide a valuable service to lottery winners:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby determine that the state lottery commission's plan complies with the requirements of section 313.351, and that approving such plan will provide a valuable service to lottery winners which, in turn, will serve to further education in this state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby approve the state lottery commission's plan for implementing lump-sum payments for pre-October 22, 1998, lottery winners.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

WHEREAS, military retirees who have served honorably for twenty or more years constitute a significant part of the aging population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, these retirees were encouraged to make the United States Armed Forces a career, in part by the promise of lifetime health care for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, prior to age sixty-five, these retirees are provided health services by the United States Department of Defense's TRICARE prime program, but those retirees who reach the age of sixty-five lose a significant portion of the promised health care due to Medicaid eligibility; and

WHEREAS, many of these retirees are also unable to access military treatment facilities for health care and life maintenance medications because they live in areas where there are no military treatment facilities or where these facilities have downsized so significantly that available space for care has become nonexistent; and

WHEREAS, the loss of access to health care services provided by the military has resulted in the government breaking its promise of lifetime health care; and

WHEREAS, without continued affordable health care, including pharmaceuticals, these retirees have limited access to quality health care and significantly less care than other retired federal civilians have under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to enact legislation that would restore health care benefits equitable with those of other retired federal workers; and

WHEREAS, several proposals to meet this requirement are currently under consideration before the United States Congress and the federal Department of Defense and Department of Health and Human Services; of these proposals, the federal government has already begun to establish demonstration projects around the country to be conducted over the next three years, which would allow Medicare to reimburse the Department of Defense for the costs of providing military retirees and their dependents health care; this project would allow a limited number of Medicare-eligible beneficiaries to enroll in the Department of Defense's TRICARE prime program and receive all of their health care under that program:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to maintain its commitment to America's military retirees by providing lifetime health care for military retirees over the age of sixty-five; to enact comprehensive legislation that affords military retirees the ability to access health care either through military

treatment facilities or through the military's network of health care providers, as well as legislation to require opening the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to those uniformed services beneficiaries who are eligible for Medicare, on the same basis and conditions that apply to retired federal civilian employees; and to enact any other appropriate legislation that would address the above concerns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and all members of the Missouri Congressional delegation with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

WHEREAS, Kansas City, known as the "Heart of America" and the "City of Fountains", includes more than one hundred thirty-six cities with a population of approximately one million six hundred thousand people; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City offers a diverse selection of shopping and entertainment areas such as Crown Center, Westport and Country Club Plaza, and is home for two impressive art museums, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and Design; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City is also big on professional sports with the Truman Sports Complex, home of Kansas City Chiefs football, Kansas City Royals baseball and Kansas City Wizards soccer; Kemper Arena, home of Kansas City Blades IHL hockey and Kansas City Attack NPSL soccer; and Hale Arena in the American Royal Complex where the Explorers play professional tennis; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City's 18th & Vine Historic District attractions include the Kansas City Jazz Museum, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the renovated Gem Theatre Cultural and Performing Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City's Liberty Memorial is the country's only memorial and museum dedicated to World War I veterans; and

WHEREAS, June 3, 2000, marks the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Kansas in the County of Jackson, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City is commemorating its sesquicentennial with a wide range of projects and celebrations, known as "KC150", throughout the year across the Kansas City metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, May 26 to June 4, 2000, marks the midpoint for celebrations which will include a May 26, 2000, free public debut performance of a Rob Kapilow symphony inspired by the memories and history of Kansas City and Union Station, a performance on May 28, 2000, by the United States Air Force Band, free admittance to major Kansas City-area museums and entertainment complexes on June 2, 2000, and a "Barbecue and Basie on the Boulevard" day featuring a barbecue contest between professional and backyard barbecue teams; and

WHEREAS, the celebrations will end on January 1, 2001, with the opening of a Century Box that was placed in 1901, and the sealing of a new time capsule to be opened January 2, 2101:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby declare June 3, 2000, to be "KC150 Day" and encourage the people of the state of Missouri, especially those persons in the Kansas City metropolitan area, to support and participate in the year-long celebrations commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Kansas City.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 29

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy is in the second year of a ten-year plan to truck spent nuclear fuel containing weapon-grade plutonium and uranium from South Carolina to a waste storage site in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, last year, the U.S. Department of Energy routed the nuclear waste through the state of Iowa on Interstate 80, which is less traveled and has fewer accidents than other possible interstate routes; and

WHEREAS, for the summer of 2000, the U.S. Department of Energy has decided to reroute the nuclear waste through the state of Missouri on Interstate 70, which has far more traffic, far more accidents and far more maintenance problems than Interstate 80; and

WHEREAS, according to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, in 1997, 6,242 accidents occurred on I-70 in Missouri compared to 1,574 accidents on I-80 in Iowa, and in 1998, 6,476 accidents occurred on I-70 in Missouri compared to 1,270 accidents on I-80 in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, in February of this year, the Governor of Missouri sent a letter to the U.S. energy secretary opposing the use of Interstate 70 for transportation of nuclear waste, citing the extremely high traffic volume and the large number of planned

construction projects on Interstate 70 that will reduce traffic flow to a single lane throughout the summer of 2000; and

WHEREAS, in light of the U.S. Department of Energy's goal to protect the public and to protect the nuclear waste material during transportation, the decision of the Department to reroute nuclear waste on Interstate 70 instead of the safer Interstate 80 seems inconsistent with the stated goal of the Department:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby denounce the decision by the United States Department of Energy to reroute nuclear waste through the state of Missouri on Interstate 70 for the summer of 2000 and urge the energy secretary to utilize Interstate 80 for the transportation of nuclear waste; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Bill Richardson, the United States energy secretary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 34

BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, that the Missouri Committee on Legislative Research shall prepare and cause to be collated, indexed, printed and bound all acts and resolutions of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, and shall examine the printed copies and compare them with and correct the same by the original rolls, together with an attestation under the hand of the Revisor of Statutes that he has compared the same with the original rolls in his office and has corrected the same thereby; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the size and quality of the paper and binding shall be substantially the same as used in prior session laws and the size and style of type shall be determined by the Revisor of Statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee on Legislative Research is authorized to print and bind copies of the acts and resolutions of the Ninetieth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, with appropriate indexing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Revisor of Statutes is authorized to determine the number of copies to be printed.

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